

The China Mail.

Established February, 1845.

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 1889.

日十三月正月正月

PRICE, \$2 PER MONTH.

VOL. XLV. No. 8160.

第一月三日九十八百八千英

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON.—F. ALCAN, 11 & 12, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street, E.C. GEORGE STREET & Co., 39, Cornhill, GORDON & GOTCH, Ludgate Circus, E.C. BATES HENDY & Co., 37, Wolbrook, E.C. SAMUEL DEACON & Co., 156 & 154, Leadenhall Street. W. M. WILKS, 151, Cannon Street, E.C.

PARIS AND EUROPE.—AMEDEE PRINCE,

36, Rue Lafayette, Paris.

NEW YORK.—ANDREW WIND, 21, Park Row.

SAN FRANCISCO and American Ports generally.—BRAN & BLACK, San Fran-

cisco.

AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW

ZEALAND.—GORDON & GOTCH, Mel-

bourn and Sydney.

CEYLON.—W. M. SMITH & Co., The

ANTEROCARIES Co., Colombo.

SINGAPORE, STRAITS, &c.—SAVILE &

Co., Square, Singapore. O. HEINSEN & Co., Manila.

CHINA.—M. A. de CRUZ, Sociedad Química & Co., Amoy, N. Moalai, Foochow, Hedges & Co., Shanghai, LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., and KELLY & WALSH, Yokohama, LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., and KELLY & Co.

Banks.

NOTICE.

RULES OF THE HONGKONG SAVINGS' BANK.

1.—The business of the above Bank will be conducted by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, on their premises in Hongkong. Business hours, from week-days, 10 to 3; Saturdays, 10 to 1.

2.—Sum less than \$1, or more than \$250 at one time will not be received. No depositor may deposit more than \$2,500 in any one year.

3.—Depositors in the Savings' Bank may, at their option transfer the same to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation for payment at 12 months at 5 per cent. per annum interest.

4.—Interest at the rate of 3½ per cent. per annum will be allowed to depositors on their daily balances.

5.—Each Depositor will be supplied gratis with a Pass-Book which must be presented with each payment or withdrawal. Depositors must not make any entries themselves in their Pass-Books but should send them to be written up at least twice a year, about the beginning of January and beginning of July.

6.—Correspondence as to the business of the Bank, if marked "On Hongkong Savings' Bank Business is forwarded free by the various British Post Offices in Hongkong and China."

7.—Withdrawals may be made on demand, but the personal attendance of the depositor or his duly appointed agent, and the production of his Pass-Book are necessary.

For the

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING

CORPORATION,

G. E. NOBLE,

Chief Manager.

Hongkong, January 1, 1889. 764

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING

CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL, \$7,500,000

RESERVE FUND, \$4,500,000

RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROPRIETORS, \$7,500,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman—W. H. FORBES, Esq.

Deputy Chairman—H. L. DALMUYL, Esq.

G. D. BOTTONWELL, Esq.

W. G. BROOKS, Esq.

J. F. HOLLIHAN, Esq.

Hon. JOHN BELL,

IRVING,

Hon. B. LATTON.

CHIEF MANAGER,

Hongkong, G. E. NOBLE, Esq.

MANAGER,

Shanghai, EWEN CAMERON, Esq.

LONDON BANKERS—London and County Bank.

HONGKONG.

INTERESTS ALLOWED.

ON Current Deposit Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

On Fixed Deposits—

For 3 months, 3 per cent. per annum.

" 6 " 4 per cent. "

" 12 " 5 per cent. "

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Debits granted on London, and the chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

G. E. NOBLE,

Chief Manager.

Hongkong, February 22, 1889. 383

Notice of Firm.

MITSU BISHI COLLIERY AGENCY.

NOTICE.

ON and after 1st proximo, Mr. H. U. JEFFRIES will assume charge of this AGENCY.

H. J. H. TRIPP.

Hongkong, February 26, 1889. 387

Intimations.

No. 7, WYNDHAM STREET.

BOARD AND RESIDENCE.

COMFORTABLE HOME FOR SINGLE GENTLEMEN.

Moderate Terms.

Mrs. KJELLER,

Proprietress.

Hongkong, January 26, 1889. 161

A LADY (very good sailor) wishing to

return to England in the Spring, would be glad to give her services during the voyage, in return for her passage home.

Address—Miss EARLE,

60 Office of this Paper.

Hongkong, February 4, 1889. 218

Intimations.

GREEN ISLAND COMPANY, LIMITED.

MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in the Company, to be held on SATURDAY, the 2nd of March, at the Office of the Company, 62, Queen's Road Central, at Half-past Two o'clock in the Afternoon.

O. EWENS,
General Manager.

Hongkong, February 19, 1889. 320

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

WEEKLY SPOON COMPETITION.

900 YARDS, 10 SHOTS.

ENTRANCE FEE, 10 CENTS, payable on the Ground. NEXT SATURDAY, 2nd March, 4 o'clock.

CARIBINES allowed Two Shots extra. On THURSDAY AFTERNOON the Range is reserved for Practice at 600 and 900 yards.

A. SHIELTON HOOPER,
Hon. Secretary.

Hongkong, February 27, 1889. 327

BUTTER.

PURE DANISH BUTTER in tins to be got CHEAP from

SCHMIDT MADSEN,
HORNES, DENMARK.

6th Sept., 1889. 1497

POLO CLUB RACES.

BY THE KIND PERMISSION
OF THE HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB
will be held on
THE RACE COURSE,
ON

SATURDAY,
the 9th March, 1889.

President—His Excellency Sir G. W. DEN VOSS.

Vice-Presidents—His Excellency Vice-Admiral Sir N. SALMON, V.C., K.C.B., His Excellency Lieut.-General W. G. CAMERON, O.B.

Committee—T. H. WHITFIELD, Esq.; J. ARMSTRONG, Esq.; Captain DES VECX, A.D.C.; R. O. GOVE, Esq., A. & S. HIGHLANDERS; Major TRIPP; Captain FLETHERTON, R.A. (Hon. Secretary); Capt. COLLINSON.

Large DINING HALL.

The HOTEL also contains handsome and comfortable Reception, READING, BILLIARD and SMOKING ROOMS.

The HOTEL is unsurpassed for comfort, convenience and quick service.

Continental languages are spoken.

Messrs. DORABJEE & HING KEE,
Proprietors.

Hongkong, September 16, 1889. 1612

W. POWELL & Co.

EX STEAMSHIPS PEAIN AND PROMETHEUS.

FIRST DELIVERIES OF

SPRING AND SUMMER DRESS MATERIALS.

LADIES' WHITE STRAW HATS,

NEW FLOWERS AND FEATHERS,

UMBRELLAS AND PARASOLS.

W. POWELL & Co.

VICTORIA EXCHANGE, February 23, 1889.

Intimations.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING

CORPORATION.

THE DIVIDEND declared for the Half-Year ending 31st December, 1888, at the rate of (2½) One POUND and TEN SHILLINGS STERLING per Share of \$125.

PAYABLE on and after MONDAY,

the 25th Instant, at the OFFICES of the Corporation, where Shareholders are requested to apply for WARRANTS.

By Order of the Court of Directors,

G. E. NOBLE,
One Manager.

Hongkong, February 23, 1889. 349

CONDITIONS.

1.—ENTRIES to Close on MONDAY, 4th March, 1889, to Captain FLETHERTON, R.A., R.A. Mess, College Gardens.

2.—Decision of the Committee to be final on all points.

3.—Three Ponies to start for each event or no prize.

4.—Colours optional.

5.—Hiraldins and jobbed ponies may run in (2) and (6); hired ponies, which have been regularly played at Polo may run in No. (3).

The Committee have the right of making a reasonable deduction from the added money, should sufficient funds not be forthcoming.

7.—The Committee to handicap.

Admission to the Stand and Enclosure,

Members and honorary Members of

Polo Club and Ladies free. Tickets of Admision can be procured from Mr. Slingsby Bethell and Captain Des Voss, Government House, or from Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, and can also be purchased on the ground.

W. FLETCHER,
Capt., R.A.

Hongkong, February 28, 1889. 383

PUBLIC NOTICE OF EXPIRY OF OPIUM FARM.

THE EXCLUSIVE PRIVILEGE OF BOILING AND PREPARING OPIUM AND SELLING AND ESTABLISHING OPIUM SO BOILED OR Prepared will CEASE on the 29th DAY of FEBRUARY, 1889. No boiled or prepared Opium purchased from us or our licensees can be used after the 3rd day of March, 1889, at Noon without the consent of the New Holder of such exclusive privilege as aforesaid.

Dated 26th January, 1889.

KHO TEONG POH,
and
CHEAH TEK SOON,
Opium Farmers.

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THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING of

SHAREHOLDERS in the Company will be held at the Company's OFFICES, No. 5, Queen's Road, Victoria, at 3 o'clock (noon), in the Afternoon of WEDNESDAY, the

THE CHINA MAIL.

2

Intimations.

The Hall & Holtz Co-operative Company, Limited.
STOCK TAKING.

To Close Consignments.
VALUABLE WAT'HERS, by J. W. BENSON.
Ludgate Hill, London.
WILL BE SOLD AT HOME PRICES.
EXCHANGE \$3.

No. 61052 Gold Keyless Field Watch, £25.
No. 65231 English Half Hunter, 23s.
No. 53473 Horizontal Hunter, 5s.
No. 1 Horizontal Hunter, 12s.
No. 2 Horizontal Hunter, 12s.
No. 65007 Silver Keyless Horizontal Hunter, 24s.
No. 66029 Silver Keyless Horizontal Hunter, £14.0.

A FEW CASES
GLEN DRONACH BLEND WHISKY,
(Pure Highland Malt).
6 years in bottle, £15 per case
(1 dozen) for Cash.

A SMALL PAPER OF
STUART'S VINO DE PASTO
SHERRY.
per dozen Case £7.00 for Cash.
500 NEW STANDARD WORKS AND
NOVELS, published at 2/-, 35 cents
each; three (3) for One Dollar.

THE HALL & HOLTZ CO-
OPERATIVE Co., Ltd.
Hongkong, February 18, 1889. 369

Notices to Consignees.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.
STEAMSHIP AFGHAN,
FROM GLASGOW, LIVERPOOL,
PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

CONSIGNEES of cargo are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co. at Kowloon, whence and/or from the Wharves delivery may be obtained.

Optional cargo will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before Noon To-day.

No. Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 5th Prox. will be subject to rent at the rate of one cent per cargo per day.

All claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Undersigned on or before the 5th Prox., or they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

ADAMSON, BELL & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, February 27, 1889. 376

To-day's Advertisements.

WE B.'S
ROYAL MARIONETTES
AFTERNOON PERFORMANCE
FOR SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES.

TO-MORROW, 2nd March.

PRICES OF ADMITION FOR CHILDREN
Dress Circle and Stalls, - 50 CENTS.
Pit, - 25 " " "
Doors open at 3 o'clock.

TO-MORROW EVENING,
THE LAST PERFORMANCE
OF
Beauty and the Beast,
AND THE PRESENT PROGRAMME.

THE ITALIAN FANTOCINI,
THE CHRISTY MINSTRELS
and the Beautiful Pantomime of

Beauty and the Beast,
changing into the
Harlequinade;

after which
MRS. AUSTIN POWER

will appear in her

TOPICAL SONG,
"I CAN'T GET A GOOD NIGHT'S REST";
The whole concluding with a Grand

Transformation Scene.

Entitled
The Palace of Dew Drops in the Country of
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Reserved Seats may be secured and
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Dress Circle and Stalls, - 50 CENTS.
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Children 1/2 price; Soldiers in Uniform will
be admitted to the Pit at half price.

C. DERMER,
Manager.

Hongkong, March 1, 1889. 391

To-day's Advertisements.

SHIRE LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR NAGASAKI, KOBE AND
YOKOHAMA.

(Via Iwakuni Sea)

The Steamship
Flintshire,

Dwyer, Commander, will be despatched for the above Ports 10 MORROW (SATURDAY), at Daylight.

This Steamer has superior Passenger accommodation.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

ADAMSON, BELL & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, March 1, 1889. 345

FOR SINGAPORE AND PENANG.

The Steamship
Kashmir,

Captain Gadd, will be despatched for the above Ports on MONDAY, the 4th Instant, at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

GEO. R. STEVENS & Co.

Hongkong, March 1, 1889. 392

NOT Responsible for Debts.

Wholesale and Retail Agents for China:

A. S. WAXON & Co., Shanghai. 984

SAILOR'S HOME.
ANY Cast of Clothing, Books, or
Paraphernalia will be thankfully received
at the Sailor's Home, West Point.
Hongkong, July 25, 1887.

NOT Responsible for Debts.

Neither the Captain, the Agents, nor
Officers will be Responsible for
any Debt contracted by the Officers or
Crew of the following Vessels, during
their stay in Hongkong Harbour:-

ADAM. W. SHES, American Barque, Capt.
A. D. Field—Russell & Co.
FLINTSHIRE, British steamer, Captain W.
Dwyer—Adamson, Bell & Co.
PACIFIC, American ship, Capt. Th. D.
Burnham—Postau & Co.

Notices to Consignees.

STEAMSHIP SAGHALLIEN.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES
MARITIMES.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

CONSIGNEES of cargo from London
ex Steamships Tunisie and Moundi,
from Havre ex S.S. Mandi, and from Bordeau
ex S.S. Ovino and Egyria de
Verges in connection with the above Steamer,
are hereby informed that their Goods
—with the exception of Opium, Treasures
and Valuables—are being landed and stored at
their risk the Company's Godowns,
whence delivery may be obtained immedi-
ately after loading.

Optional cargo will be forwarded on, unless
instructions are given from the Consignee
immediately after the 5th March, To-morrows (Thursday), request-
ing it to be landed here.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by
the Undersigned.

Goods remaining unclaimed after Fri-
day, the 8th March, 1889, at Noon, will be
subject to rent, and landing charges at
one cent per packet per day.

All claims must be sent in to me on or
before the 5th March, or they will not be
recognized.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

G. de CHAMPEAUX,
Agent.

Hongkong, February 28, 1889. 384

GEN LINE OF STEAM PACKETS.

FROM ANWERP AND LONDON.

THE Steamship Glenury, having arrived
from the above Ports, Consignees of
Cargo by her are hereby informed that
their Goods are being landed at our
risk in the Godowns of the Kowloon
Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., at Wet Point,
whence delivery may be obtained.

Optional cargo will be forwarded unless
notice to the contrary be given before
5 p.m. To-day.

Cargo remaining undelivered after the
4th March, will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Consignees are also requested to present
all claims for damages and/or shortages not
later than the 11th March, otherwise they
will not be recognized.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

J. R. JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, February 25, 1889. 399

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION
COMPANY, LIMITED.

FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND
SINGAPORE.

THE Company's S.S. Wingung, having
arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of
Cargo by her are hereby informed that
their Goods are being landed at our
risk in the Godowns of the Kowloon
Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., at Wet Point,
whence delivery may be obtained.

Cargo remaining undelivered after the
5th of March will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Consignees are requested to present all
claims for damages and/or shortages not
later than two weeks after arrival of the
steamer, otherwise they will not be re-
quested.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Agents.

CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE,
LIMITED.

ADJUSTMENT OF BONUS FOR THE YEAR 1888.

CONTRIBUTORS to the above OFFICE
are requested to furnish the Under-
signed with a List of their CONTRIBUTIONS
for the year ending 31st December, 1888, in
Order that the DISTRIBUTION of BONUS
may be arranged. Returns not rendered
prior to the 31st day of MARCH INSTANT,
will be adjusted by the OFFICE, and no
Claims or Alterations will be subsequently
admitted.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Agents.

CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE, LTD.

Hongkong, February 27, 1889. 388

Notices to Consignees.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.
STEAMSHIP AFGHAN,
FROM GLASGOW, LIVERPOOL,
PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

CONSIGNEES of cargo are hereby informed
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the Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co. at
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delivery may be obtained.

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notice to the contrary be given before Noon
To-day.

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Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods
remaining undelivered after the 5th Prox.
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Hongkong, February 27, 1889. 376

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OF
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be admitted to the Pit at half price.

C. DERMER,
Manager.

Hongkong, March 1, 1889. 391

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

MARCH 1, 1889.—

Amoy, German steamer, 814, R. Kohler,
Shanghai February 26, General and Rico
Society & Co.

Chusan, British steamer, 1,194, Sawyer,
Shanghai February 22, via Amoy 25, and
Swatow 28, General—JARDINE, MATHESON
& Co.

Albany, British steamer, 1,480, Ed.
Porter, Simonsaki February 24, Rica and
General, for New York—ADAMSON, BELL
& Co.

Flintshire, British steamer, 1,870, W.
Dreyer, Glasgow via London, January 12,
and Singapore February 22, General—

ADAMSON, BELL & Co.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,630, John
Counsell, Nagasaki February 24, Coal—

MITSUI BUSAN KAISHA.

Hecatooza, British ship, 1,000, Henry
Cann, Cardiff October 19, Coal and Coke.

GENERAL MEMORANDA.

MONDAY, MARCH 4.—

Goode's Glycerine undelivered after
this date subject to rent.

The first flight of Tientin steamers left Shanghai on the 26th. The Indo-China Co. were sending the Koushing and *El Dorado* for Tientin direct and the *Sin Nan* and *Chufoo*; the C. N. Co. are sending the *Tungchow* and *Wuchau*; the Formosa Trading Co., the Smith and *C. & J.*; and the C.M.S.N. Co. the *Hai Lin*, *Chintung*, *Huan*, and *Poochi*.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *N.C. Daily News* mentions that Chinkiang is the only place in China where the Manchu garrison maintains a distinct animosity against Englishmen. At the time of the *Tangho* troubles in 1860, he says, the Chinese people solemnly vowed that the China Island Mission should not be allowed to establish itself inside the walls of the town. The ring-leaders of that movement were the Tartars, who openly declared that they had not forgotten the fate of their fathers and mothers in 1842. Though such a feeling would not prevent them to riot nowadays, I quite understand, the writer adds, their reluctance to quell a disturbance directed against foreigners."

The following changes in shipping circles are from the *N.C. Daily News*:—Captain Bradish of the *Takao* has gone in command of the *Yikang*, and Captain Peters of the *Pekili* is now in the *Takao*. Captain Hogg, returned from leave, has gone back to his old ship, the *Rockwood*, relieving Captain Sawyer who has been temporarily transferred to the *Chengyang* in place of Captain Bulweris who, with Captain Moncur of the *Yikang*, stays behind this trip. Captain Vallack, temporarily in charge of the *Crusader*, goes back to the *Wuchau* which is bound for the port of Captain Ogston to his own vessel. Captain Shaw, who brought up the *Idonea* from Hongkong, gives place to Captain Downie as soon as the *Takao* is ready for the Shanghai-Ningpo line.

Captain Wu-chang Fu, Capital of Hupeh Province, outside the Pao-pan-gan Gate in the suburbs of Sun-sze Ho, lived an old man who made a living by selling hens and ducks. As these are sold by weight the old man made a practice of filling their crops with sand, which he would pour down their throats, forcing the sand again in the evening out at the bills of those which had not been bought by the deluded customers. The fowls which had experienced the cruel treatment at his hands were more numerous than the sands of the Ganges. His old age, however, having lost a competency in business, and forgetful of the suffering he had caused so many innocent fellow-creatures, expected to live many peaceful years on his *Hilltop* gains. But Neumann followed him, and he was suddenly smitten with a strange disease of the throat, an obstruction which made him bring up again everything which he attempted to swallow. He is at present lying at the brink of death, in great suffering, and the neighbours, who can do nothing to relieve him, say it is a visible retribution from Heaven.—*See Pro*.

The *N.C. Daily News* says:—We have received from a correspondent at Ningpo a letter, which we are going to print at present, containing an account of what he has seen himself in the course of a rapid expedition with one of the missionaries who are devoting themselves to this arduous task, in a climate where the thermometer stands constantly below zero. The details are almost too shocking to print. We read of families, their clothing and furniture sold or burnt for fuel, living on a broth made of chopped willow leaves, or the husks of millet. Many families have not even this, and are patiently starving to death. The writer tells of one family of six—and this is only one of hundreds of cases—living in a dog-hole hole filled with earth, and having no light, air, or ventilation, in these hours a second, by preventing the increase of damp in the floors and walls of houses, such damp being, as is well known and recognised, a source of disease, of fever, and, as I understand, of various other diseases; third, by providing for certain privy accommodation in houses, to be carried out under certain sanitary conditions. There are other objects also, although not so important as these, and I will only refer to two of them—namely, provisions against blasting, except under certain conditions, and earthing. These two provisions have for their object the safety of the people inhabiting their dwellings. The object of the measure now before the Council is what is known as the Metropolitan Building Act of 1855, an Imperial measure, and certain rules and by-laws known as the Model by-laws, framed by the Local Government Board in England; and, as I understand, they have been adopted in nearly all the most populous and commercial centres in the kingdom. Of course, these rules and the Imperial Act of Parliament would be in a great measure impracticable in the circumstances of the Colony, and therefore they have been modified and adapted to meet these circumstances. In all probability it will suggest itself to every person who has considered this bill to inquire what is done for the protection of its citizens for it is a fact that may be called vested interests, or what may be more practically called old buildings, erected before the coming into operation of this Ordinance. The Ordinance, I think, is very explicit in its terms. It extends to buildings commenced before the Ordinance comes into force, and it extends also to buildings commenced before the Ordinance comes into operation, but the enclosing walls of which have not been raised beyond the footings. It also extends to old buildings—that is, buildings erected before this way, that if they are pulled down to half their extent and rebuilt on the same foundations, they then come under the provisions of this Act. It is therefor, that these are real interferences with old buildings, except when the owners of old buildings commence to pull down and rebuild. There are certain exceptions in the Bill with reference to Colonial Government buildings and Naval and Military buildings, but although they are excepted from the general provisions, they are included in these provisions which relate to inflammable materials, boardings, scaffolding and verandahs. I think from a consideration of all these provisions it will be manifest that the Bill commends itself to the Council for obvious reasons. Our Colony is approaching its fiftieth year; it is still in its infancy, in its youth regard its development, its population, and its buildings. The index of the Asiatic population is increasing, and I believe in the future it will be increased. By increased population a demand is raised for increased housing and building. To meet this, new houses are springing up all around, and many of the old houses are being pulled down, and being reconstructed on more economical ideas and to space. It is therefore, I submit, the duty of the Government to control and guide the building trade of the colony so as it can do so fairly and legitimately to the people generally, and without incurring hardships upon owners and builders; whilst protecting the tenants, not to impose expenses upon landlords which they may not be reasonably prepared and reasonably called upon to pay. The law at present dealing with the subject of building, Ordinance 8 of 1855, although it is not so good as it could be, is the best we have. We have to make some alterations to meet the altered circumstances of the colony since the time it became law. It does not seem to have been based on the Metropolitan Building Act, and it is now

MEETING OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held this afternoon. Present:—His Excellency Sir G. William Des Voeux, Governor; Hon. Frederick Stewart, Colonial Secretary; Hon. A. J. Louch, Acting Attorney General; Hon. H. E. Wedderburn, Acting Colonial Treasurer; Hon. J. M. Price, Surveyor General; Hon. W. M. Deane, Captain Superintendent of Police; Hon. P. Ryrie, Hon. Wong Shing, Hon. J. Bell-Irving, Hon. C. P. Clater, Hon. B. Layton, and Mr Seth, Clerk of the Councils. Absent: Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, Registrar General.

FINANCIAL MINUTES.

The Colonial Secretary laid on the table financial minutes in which H. E. the Governor recommended the following votes:—A sum of \$2,000 to be vested in trustees for the benefit of the widow of Pereira, the treasurer in Victoria Gaol, who was killed in the recent ching-chang outbreak; a sum of \$492 to defray the cost of the Freya survey opposite the Naval Yard; and the military canteenants; a sum of \$132, being the salaries of two scavengers for the new market at Hung-ham.

The minutes were referred to the Finance Committee.

SANITARY BY-LAWS.

The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the by-laws prepared by the Sanitary Board, dated 13th February 1889, and gave notice that he would move their adoption at next meeting.

THE CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDINGS ORDINANCE.

The Acting Attorney General—I beg, Sir, to move the second reading of this Ordinance. The *Takao* has gone in command of the *Yikang*, and Captain Peters of the *Pekili* is now in the *Takao*. Captain Hogg, returned from leave, has gone back to his old ship, the *Rockwood*, relieving Captain Sawyer who has been temporarily transferred to the *Chengyang* in place of Captain Bulweris who, with Captain Moncur of the *Yikang*, stays behind this trip. Captain Vallack, temporarily in charge of the *Crusader*, goes back to the *Wuchau* which is bound for the port of Captain Ogston to his own vessel. Captain Shaw, who brought up the *Idonea* from Hongkong, gives place to Captain Downie as soon as the *Takao* is ready for the Shanghai-Ningpo line.

His Excellency—It has been intimated to me that there are some clauses which members have not yet been fully informed upon. That being the case, and inasmuch as I presume a very large portion of the Ordinance will not be the subject of contention, I propose that where such is the case—where members have not been fully informed—it should be intimated; and on any information being made available to the members that they would rather have particular clauses postponed, I shall have no objection to do so. Of course, members have made up their minds to oppose, and I see no reason why these should not be taken now, but where they have not made up their minds, and are still wanting information, I have no objection to postponement.

Mr Chater—I am extremely obliged to you, Sir, for your remarks. This is a very important Bill, as the Attorney General has just observed, and one that has to be gone into most thoroughly. I regret very much, and am ashamed to say, that I have not had quite sufficient time to go into the Bill very carefully. But since I visited the room where we are dealing with a measure of this kind, I have had the opportunity of seeing the *Gazette*, and this draft was only circulated yesterday. I do not know much about it myself, but there are people interested in the matter who have had the opportunity of studying the Bill.

His Excellency—What people?

Are we to communicate this draft to the people, in any other manner than we have done. They knew this discussion was owing to us and they could surely procure a Government *Gazette*. The Bill has been printed at least three or four weeks. I do not know much about it myself, but there are people interested in the matter who have had the opportunity of studying the Bill.

Mr Chater—My hon. friend refers doubtless to the Chinese. It is not every Chinaman who may be interested who goes to the expense of getting a *Gazette*. This is a measure we must deliberate very carefully over, or we might drive away a great many Chinese from the place. I think you said at the last meeting that any long postponement might delay the departure of the Surveyor General. I should be the last man to wish this, but this is a most important Bill and it ought to be taken in hand very slowly.

His Excellency—I quite appreciate all that; but I think people generally are so alive to their own interests that when there is anything in the least affecting them they are likely to be interested.

Mr Wong Shing—They have studied it very carefully.

Mr Ryrie—And don't like it?

PRIVIES.

Coming to sections 50 to 54 dealing with privies.

Mr Chater said he would like to have the opinion of the Sanitary Board on this matter. His own opinion was that the Chinese considered privies an intolerable nuisance. Instead of doing food they said they would do a great deal of harm.

The Colonial Secretary—What is the objection to them? Supposing there are sick people in the house, what are they to do?

Mr Chater—The Chinese prefer going to the public places. If you put up more public places it would be much better. The Chinese will never keep privies clean.

His Excellency—What does Mr Chater expect to gain by amendment?

Mr Chater—All I want is that farm leases can be exactly on the same footing as urban lots.

The Surveyor General—It would probably be more convenient if this clause were postponed so as to enable members to see a farm lease and understand its provisions.

His Excellency—It seems to me that there cannot be any serious objection to the word "farm" in the word "farmhold," unless with the sanction of the Governor.

His Excellency—What does Mr Chater expect to gain by amendment?

His Excellency—It is assumed that farm leases are issued because there are no other form of tenure, but they have been abolished some years ago. It is quite true that there are 14 or 15 farm leases with buildings on sites in Pokfulam and Kowloon, but these buildings are not allowed under the bill, otherwise this must be an exceptional place.

Mr Layton—It is an exceptional place.

The Colonial Secretary—I think the Chinese interested in this Bill have studied it better than the Europeans.

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